# **EXHIBIT "A"**

FILED 3/9/2016 3:42:10 PM Donna Kay McKinney Bexar County District Clerk Accepted By: Michelle Garcia

# 2CITSPPS W/JD SAC1

# CAUSE NG 2016CI04220

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ATILLA ANTHONY CHARLES Plaintiff.

V.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY AND NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY CORPORATION Defendants. 225 JUDICINE DISTRICT

BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

### PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW COMES ATILLA ANTHONY CHARLES, hereinafter called Plaintiff, complaining of and about NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY AND NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY CORPORATION, hereinafter called Defendants, and for cause of action would respectfully show unto the Court the following:

#### I. DISCOVERY CONTROL PLAN

Plaintiff intends that discovery be conducted under Level 3 of Rule 190.4 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

#### II. PARTIES AND SERVICE

Plaintiff ATILLA ATHONY CHARLES is an individual residing in Bexar County, Texas and may be contact through his undersigned attorneys. Plaintiff's last three digits of his Texas Drivers License are 071 and Plaintiff's last three digits of his social security number are 808.

Defendant, NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, is a foreign for-profit corporation engaging in the business of insurance and operating in the state of Texas procuring

ATILLA ANTHONY CHARLES VS. NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO. ET AL.

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and adjusting policies in Texas. NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY may be served through its attorney for service at the following address:

CT Corporation System 1999 Bryan St., Suite 900 Dallas, Texas 75201-3136.

Defendant, NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY CORPORATION, is a foreign for-profit corporation engaging in the business of life insurance, annuity and operating in the state of Texas procuring and adjusting policies in Texas. NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY CORPORATION may be served through its attorney for service at the following address:

CT Corporation System 1999 Bryan St., Suite 900 Dallas, Texas 75201-3136.

#### III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

The Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over the lawsuit because the subject matter in controversy is within the jurisdictional limits of this court.

This court has jurisdiction over Defendant NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, because the aforementioned Defendant operates in Bexar County, Texas and said incident occurred in Bexar County, Texas.

This court has jurisdiction over Defendant NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY CORPORATION, because the aforementioned Defendant operates in Bexar County, Texas and said incident occurred in Bexar County, Texas.

Venue in Bexar County is proper in this cause.

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#### IV. FACTS

Ms. Joan J. Charles purchased life insurance and an income annuity from New York Bills.

Insurance Company and New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation.

Joan J. Charles acquired an income annuity (policy no. 74 788015) for the benefits of Mr. Aulla Anthony Charles and a life insurance policy (policy no. 58413638) naming Mr. Atilla Anthony Charles as a beneficiary.

Ms. Joan J. Charles' policies remained active and enforced during her life. Ms. Charles' passed away on April 20, 2015. On or about that time, Defendants New York Life Insurance Company and New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation were placed on notice that Ms. Charles' had passed away and that the policies were to be paid out to the named beneficiaries. New York Life Insurance Company and New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation have refused to pay Mr. Atilla Anthony Charles, Plaintiff herein, on the policies stating an "ongoing or pending" investigation. Mr. Atilla Anthony Charles has filed a claim, provided written notice to Defendants, provided the proper additional documentation requested by Defendants and requested that payment be made in accordance with the policies. To date New York Life Insurance Company and New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation have failed to issue payment.

V.

#### BREACH OF CONTRACT

An enforceable contract existed and Defendants' made a material breach. Defendants made an offer of an annuity, with clear and definite terms and an offer of life insurance, to Ms. Joan J. Charles. Defendants' conduct and language showed with reasonable certainty Defendants' intent to enter into multiple contracts with Ms. Joan J. Charles. Ms. Charles accepted Defendants offer

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through the funding of the annuity, the funding of a life insurance policy and the signing of the

respective contracts.

Execution and delivery of the annuity and the life insurance policy occurred. The contracts

were accepted and Ms. Charles made initial investments funding the annumental and

insurance policy. Ms. Charles continued to fully perform her contractual obligations until her

death. Defendants breached the contract by failing to payout Ms. Charles' annuity and life

insurance policy to Plaintiff. Defendants have continued to delay payment even though the name

insured is deceased; Plaintiff has provided the proper documentation and the policies are ripe for

payment.

As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breaches by and through the acts of their

agents, servants, and/or employees, Plaintiff sustained damages, including but not limited to the

benefits provided for under the policy, court costs and attorneys' fees.

BREACH OF DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

Plaintiff and Defendants are in the type of special relationship that the duty of good faith

and fair dealing was developed to protect. Plaintiff performed all, or substantially all, of the

covenants, and acts required to be performed by him in accordance with the terms and conditions

of the policies. Ms. Charles entered into an agreement with Defendants naming specific

beneficiaries. Defendants sold Ms. Charles an annuity and life insurance policy with the

representations that the annuity and life insurance would provide certain benefits and be paid out

which has failed to occur. Plaintiff has filed a claim and provided written notice of said claim and

request for payment.

As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breaches by and through the acts of their

agents, servants, and/or employees, Plaintiff sustained damages, including but not limited to the

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benefits provided for under the policy, court costs and attorneys' fees.

TEXAS DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT (DTPA)

Plaintiff is a consumer under the DTPA. Plaintiff was a named beneficiary under the

annuity and life insurance policy purchased by Ms. Charles.

Defendants through their actions and practices offered/promised Ms.

characteristics and benefits through her purchases of an annuity, a life insurance policy and

payments of initial investments. Defendants used their superior experience and knowledge of

annuities and life insurance policies to coerce Ms. Charles into purchasing the annuities in

question. Defendants acted unconscionably by taking advantage of Ms. Charles' lack of

knowledge, abilities, experience, and capacities to a grossly unfair degree. Furthermore,

Defendants through their actions and practices have purposefully delayed Plaintiff's recovery.

As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violation of the DTPA and wrongful

conduct, Plaintiff sustained damages, including but not limited to the benefits provided for under

the policy, court costs and attorneys' fees.

Furthermore, Plaintiff seeks recovery of unliquidated damages within the jurisdictional

limits of this court. Defendants, Defendants' agents, servants, and/or employees acted knowingly

and intentionally, which (1) entitles Plaintiff to recover mental anguish damages under Texas

Business & Commerce Code § 17.50(b)(1); (2) entitles Plaintiff to recover treble economic

damages under Texas Business and Commerce Code § 17.50(b)(1); and (3) entitles Plaintiff to

recover for reasonable and necessary attorney fees for prosecuting this suit under Texas Business

& Commerce Code § 17.50(d).

DTPA AND THE TEXAS INSURANCE CODE CHAPTER 541

Defendants knowingly and intentionally misrepresented the terms of the policy and

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negligently and or fraudulently induced Ms. Charles into getting this specific annuity and life

insurance policy. Furthermore, Defendants failed to adhere to the provisions stated in

annuity and life insurance policy because Defendants have failed to honor the provent provisions

following Ms. Charles' death. But-for Defendants' misrepresentations of the temps of the

and promises of certain benefits and advantages Ms. Charles would not have purchased the life

insurance policy and income annuity and Plaintiff would not have suffered injuries.

As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violation of the Texas Insurance Code

chapter 541 by and through the acts of their agents, servants, and/or employees, Plaintiff sustained

damages, including but not limited to the cost of the premium payments and interests promised

but not earned, in an amount exceeding \$1,000,000, exemplary damages in an amount the court

sees fit due to Defendants' malicious, otherwise morally culpable conduct and to deter such

conduct in the future, pre and post-judgment interest, court costs and attorney fees.

**TEXAS INSURANCE CODE CHAPTER 542** 

Plaintiff filed a claim with Defendants following Ms. Charles' death. Plaintiff was an

intended beneficiary under both the income annuity and the life insurance policy. Plaintiff

triggered the statute by giving written notice of Ms. Charles' death to Defendants and properly

filing his claim. Plaintiff has complied with Defendants requests for documentation and has

provided all necessary documentation. Defendants have failed to give proper notice to Plaintiff

and have failed to pay Plaintiff on the policies and under the sixty-day requirement provided for

by the Prompt Payment Statute.

As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violation of the Texas Insurance Code

chapter 542 by and through the acts of their agents, servants, and/or employees, Plaintiff sustained

damages, including but not limited to the cost of the premium payments and 18% interest per

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annum, in an amount exceeding \$1,000,000, exemplary damages in an amount the court sees fit

due to Defendants' malicious, otherwise morally culpable conduct and to deter sugh

the future, court costs and attorney fees.

**EXEMPLARY DAMAGES** 

Plaintiff's injury resulted from Defendants' gross negligence, malice or actual fraud by

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and through the acts of their agents, servants, and/or employees, which entitles Plaintiffs to

exemplary damages under Texas Civil Practices & Remedies Code section 41.003(a). Exemplary

damages are designed to penalize and punish a Defendant for outrageous, malicious, or

otherwise morally culpable conduct and to deter such conduct in the future. Furthermore,

exemplary damages set public example to prevent repetition of the act. Defendants knowingly

and purposefully failed to promptly pay Plaintiff. Defendants are in the business of providing

financial services. The Court should grant Plaintiffs' request for exemplary damages as a

punishment for Defendants and as an example to the public for their illegal action and practices.

ATTORNEY FEES

Plaintiffs are entitled to recover reasonable and necessary attorney fees under section

17.50 of the Business and Commerce Code, under chapter 541 of the Texas Insurance Code and

under chapter 542 of the Texas Insurance Code.

**JURY DEMAND** 

Plaintiff demands a jury trial and tenders the appropriate fee with this petition.

REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 194, Plaintiffs require Defendants in this cause

of action to disclose information or material described in Rule 194.2, within 50 days of the

service of this request.

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#### PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff asks that the Court is the Chaffor of Defendants to appear and answer, and that Plaintiff be awarded a judgment against Defendants in an amount over \$1,000,000 that will compensate Plaintiff for its losses and damages as stated above, together with both pre and post-judgment interest. 18 interest per annum for the time of filing his claim; equitable relief as stated above; exemplary damages as stated above; all costs of court; attorney fees and all other relief to which Plaintiff is entitled.

Respectfully submitted.

CHRIS PETTIT & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 11902 Rustic Lane
San Antonio, Texas 78230
210-732-8300 Telephone

210-764-1718 Facsimile

By:

CHRISTA SAMANIEGO

Email: christasamaniego@mac.com

SBOT: 17554450 CATHLEEN LOCKHART

SBOT: 24005121 MANUEL ACUNA-NEELY

SBOT: 24091489

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF, ATILLA ANTHONY CHARLES

# Case 5:16-cv-00285-XR Document 1-1 Filed 03/21/16 Page 10 of 12

CERTIFIED COPY CERTIFICATE STATE OF TEXAS I, DONNA KAY MIKINNEY, BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK. DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL RECORD NOW IN MY LAWFUL CUSTODY. WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE ON THIS:

March 15, 2016

DONNA KAY M<sup>©</sup>KINNEY BEXAR COUNTY, TEKAS

By:

IRMA K TORRES, Deputy District Clerk

(NOT VALID WITHOUT THE CLERKS'S ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.)

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FILED 3/9/2016 5:30:16 PM Donna Kay McKinney Bexar County District Clerk Accepted By: Olivia Cruz

CAUSE NUMBER (FOR CLERK USE ONLY): \_\_\_

## **CIVIL CASE INFORMATION SHEET**

2016Cl04220 COURT (FOR CLERK USE ONLY):

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STYLED ATILLA ANTHONY CHARLES V. NEW YORK LIFE INSUDANCE COMPANY ET AL

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(e.g., John Smith v. All American Insurance Co., In re Mary Ann Jones, in the Matter of the Estate of George Jackson)  A civil case information sheet must be completed and submitted when an original petition or application is filled to initiate a new civil diffusit for Best the information for modification or motion for enforcement is filled in a family law case. The information for modification or motion for enforcement is filled in a family law case. The information for modification or motion for enforcement is filled in a family law case.							
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CERTIFIED COPY CERTIFICATE STATE OF TEXAS
I, DONNA KAY MIKINNEY, BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT
CLERK, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING
IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL
RECORD NOW IN MY LAWFUL CUSTODY. WITNESS
MY OFFICIAL HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE ON THIS:

March 15, 2016

DONNA KAY MCKINNEY BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

By:

IRMA K TORRES, Deputy District Clerk

(NOT VALID WITHOUT THE CLERKS'S ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.)

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